

# Live News and Fresh Gossip From the Cities and Towns of Virginia

## PRIZE FIGHT BROKEN UP

Police Little Knew of Their Successful Work.

### AUDIENCE WAITED IN VAIN

Five Negro Sports from Bloodfield Are Rounded Up and Landed in Police Station and There Was No Show at the Appointed Place.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
NEWPORT NEWS, VA., January 30.—The police inadvertently broke up a prize fight which was to have been pulled off in Rocketts early this morning, by arresting the men who were to have been the principals in the bout. All of the sporting men in the city had gathered in the hall above a Rocketts Saloon, in which the affair was to have occurred, and deep was their disappointment when the men failed to put in their appearance, and the cause was ascertained.

Last night Chief of Police Johnson and Detective Sergeant Reynolds decided to make a trip through Rocketts and pick up a lot of thieves, "crap shooters," etc., who were known to hang about the all-night saloons. Shortly after midnight they started out, and, as they were in the corner of Warwick Avenue and Twenty-fifth Street, to go into the Rocketts section, they collided with five negro sports from Bloodfield, among them being Billy Williams, alias Fanny, and Bruce Chaborn, two notorious Bloodfield boxers.

Now Bloodfield sports are not allowed to cross the city line and come into Rocketts, so Sergeant Reynolds took the five in charge and sent them to the station house in the patrol wagon. The negroes protested vigorously, but without effect, and they were landed behind the bars for the night.

**BROKE UP THE FUN.**  
The officers little knew what fun they had broken up, and without thinking of the Bloodfield crowd again they continued their trip and succeeded in landing a number of other characters who are considered dangerous when they are not working.

Early this morning, in an all-night restaurant, The Times-Dispatch correspondent heard the story of how the sports had gathered in Rocketts to see a bout, which had been arranged for some time ago, and how the police had "gotten next," and stopped the fun. The story was to the effect that several city officers and all of the best known men in the city with sporting propensities were in the crowd which had gathered.

In the Police Court to-day the two fighters were put under heavy bonds to keep the peace, and were committed to jail upon their failure to secure bondsmen. Later, one of them was released. Both testified on the stand that Mr. S. L. Boyd, a Rocketts saloon keeper, had invited them to come to the place this morning and "spar a little" for the gentlemen.

**BEST SEATON THOMPSON.**  
Mr. Ernest Seaton Thompson, the well known author, will deliver his lecture on "Wild Animals I Have Known," at the Young Men's Christian Association Monday evening. Mr. Thompson's books are very popular in this city, and it is expected that a large crowd will go to hear him.

The local observer has received instructions from the Weather Bureau at Washington, to hoist the northwesterly wind signals this afternoon to warn the shipping of the approach of a heavy northwest gale. It will be dangerous for vessels to venture out before the gale passes.

The new First Baptist Church, on Twenty-fifth Street, is rapidly nearing completion now, and the congregation expects to occupy it daily in the spring. The structure is of stone and will be the handsomest of all the new edifices which have been erected here by the large congregation of the past few years. The stone work is nearly completed now, and the work of finishing up the interior will begin soon.

**BY MRS. HUNTINGTON.**  
It was officially announced this afternoon that the launch steamer Francis H. Leggett, which will be launched at the shipyard to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock, will be christened by Mrs. Archer P. Huntington, instead of by Miss Francis H. Leggett, daughter of the president of the Hampton Lumber Company, for whom the ship is being built.

Mr. and Mrs. Archer Huntington, Mrs. Collis P. Huntington, Mrs. Charles Huntington, Mr. Huntington and Miss Clemens, daughter of Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain), are now at the Chancellors Hotel, Old Point, where they have been for the past few days. It is said now that the party came here for the purpose of seeing the ship christened by Mrs. Huntington, although it was announced at the shipyard office some days ago that Miss Leggett would break the traditional bottle.

Francis H. Leggett and his party arrived this morning from New York and are now at the Warwick Hotel. All preparations have been made for the launching, and nothing is expected to mar the success of the event.

**IS NOW.**  
John B. Bell, the negro who is in the Hampton jail, charged with stabbing Billy Watkins, also colored, has lost his mind, and is now a raving maniac. The man has been in the asylum at Petersburg and was probably unbalanced at the time he committed the crime. The wounded man is in a serious condition.

A small fire occurred in a building near the wharf and lumber sheds in Hampton this morning, and for a while excitement reigned. A defective fuse caused the blaze, and the damage was trivial.

A large tract of timber land near Hampton, owned by D. S. Jones, has been purchased by John Hoper, of Norfolk. The tract contains 104 acres and the price was \$10,000.

**OLD MAN DROWNED.**  
The lifeless body of James Gifford, an old man seventy-one years of age, an inmate of the National Soldiers' Home, was found yesterday by a countryman in a small stream of water near Sugar Hill, Elizabeth City county. The body was discovered lying face downward in about a foot of water, and when it was dragged out it looked as though it had been extinct for some time. The old man was in a habit of taking long walks, and it is supposed that he walked by the stream and slipped in. Once in the water he was too feeble to pull himself out. The body was removed to the home and the relatives of the deceased have been notified. Mr. Gifford was from New York, and it has always been understood at the home that he was a member of a highly respected New York family.

**JAIL ALL RIGHT.**  
The jail commission recently appointed

## A SOCIAL MEETING

Mr. Seward Thus Describes Assemblage of Trunk Men.

### PLANS FOR A NEW HOTEL

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(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
PETERSBURG, VA., Jan. 30.—Mr. Simon Seward has returned to Petersburg from New York, where he attended the meeting of the trunk manufacturers of America, held at the Waldorf Astoria this week. When asked about the proposition of the manufacturers to amalgamate their interests, Mr. Seward said this was only newspaper talk and that the meeting held this week was simply a social affair. He says that there is no foundation for the report that the manufacturers will consolidate their interests.

Plans, it is said, are being drawn for the building to be erected at Sycamore and Tenth Streets in this city. Unless there are some changes in the present plan, this building will be four or five stories high and the first two floors will be occupied as stores and offices and the floors above as hotel rooms. The lobby and hotel offices are to be on the first floor.

The cars on the Richmond and Petersburg Electric Railway will lay over in day against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company and the Southern Railroad Company to show cause, if any, why they should not be fined for violating an injunction granted on the 25th of January, 1903, in which trains Nos. 12 and 34 were required to make connection at Strasburg Junction. The rule is made returnable to the first day of April, next.

The verdict rendered against the Virginia Fire and Marine Insurance Company of North America and the Niagara Insurance Company in favor of S. P. Louns, of Mount Jackson, for damages to his store building by fire in February, 1902, for \$1,000, was reduced by the court to-day to \$350 and judgment docketed.

**Bedford Weather.**  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
FOREST DEPOT, VA., January 30.—Bedford county is now in the throes of bad weather and so much rain and roads. Business is very much retarded by these conditions. Farmers are now stripping tobacco and shucking corn. The fine lands here are just now attracting a very respectable class of settlers from the West. Farmers recently sold here for \$5,000, \$7,000 and \$8,000 and even higher figures, are now being well stocked, and many evidences of healthy improvements are apparent. The westerner of means is a recognized factor with us.

Forest is coming to the front as a mercantile center, it being estimated that the year 1902 witnessed double the sales of merchandise over the preceding year 1901. This is ascribable to the enlarged stocks and improving trading facilities. A cannery factory is being erected here.

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Assistant Yarnmaster Harry Henderson has been quite ill for several days. The music class will give a musicale at the seminary to-night, presenting, by way of variation, a short play entitled "Young Doctor Dinkie."

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Both Went Up in Smoke—Large Brick Plant in Operation.

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Mr. B. J. Wysox, a prominent and well known merchant and citizen of Russell, is a candidate for clerk of the State Board of Agriculture, recently appointed by the Governor.

Mr. W. Byrd Henry, son of Major and Mrs. R. R. Henry, has returned to his home at Jager, Va., after a week's visit here.

Clarence W. Gooding, of the United States Census Department, was in town this week getting information for the Census Bureau about power and light plants and electric railways.

The trial of Rosa Dean for the murder of Turner at Pocahontas last October has been postponed until Saturday.

The trial of Henry Trent for killing A. B. Scott's fine dog came up before Squire Peery yesterday, but was postponed until Saturday.

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## COL. WADDY'S ASSISTANT

Robt. W. Webb Would Like to Have S. B. Carney's Place.

### SCHMOELE AWARD FIGHT

Argument Before Judge Waddill by Judge Lewis for the Government and Judge Watts for the Portsmouth Company.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
NORFOLK, VA., January 30.—Postmaster J. R. Waddy is in Washington to-day looking after his confirmation by the Senate, and also attending the Postoffice officials as to their feeling in the matter of the assistant postmastership here. Postmaster-General Payne, in writing Colonel Waddy recently for the purpose of informing him officially of his appointment as postmaster of Norfolk, said that the Department would be pleased to have him retain S. B. Carney as his assistant, if he (Waddy) could "consistently do so." Robert W. Webb, who worked faithfully for the reappointment of Colonel Waddy, and secured Washington influence which, it is said, had much to do with the reappointment of Waddy as postmaster, wants to succeed Carney.

The evidence in the Government's contest against the confirmation of the Waddy of \$75,000 made by the commissioners appointed to condemn the Schmoele tract in Portsmouth to enlarge the navy yard, was concluded to-day, and the matter was argued at length by Judge L. L. Lewis for the Government and by Judge Leigh R. Watts for the Portsmouth Company, owner of the property, which wants the award confirmed. Judge Waddill took the case under advisement, and announced that he would send to Norfolk his opinion in writing on Tuesday next.

**LANDS SOLD.**  
The John L. Roper Lumber Company has purchased from D. S. Jones, of Newport News, for \$10,000 cash, two tracts of timber lands near the York River line, on the Sawyers Creek road. It is understood that the Roper Company will place several saw mills on the tracts and convert the standing timber into lumber, which will be brought here for sale.

Judge Croker, of Portsmouth, to-day continued the trial of James Delphin to the effect of Dolphus, the ex-segment of marines arrested last week and committed on a charge of insanity, but later placed in the custody of J. P. M. Joyce. The proceedings in court were by petition of Lewis Delphin, a brother of the kindred Dolphus, who has been reinstated in his old position of first sergeant in the United States Marine Corps and will be sent to the Government hospital for the insane.

Joe Corbett, now keeping a lively stable at Portsmouth, has written to a friend here as follows: "It is possible that I may play in Norfolk this spring with one of the teams. I hear away out here of the pretty park you have now, and I will never forget the kind of a time I was at there."

**STORY WRITERS EXCITED.**  
There was a great agitation among the story-writing newspaper men here last night. First there came a demand from a sensational Northern paper for advice as to the creditable story from Elizabeth City that Wilcox is innocent of the murder of Nell Cropley, and that the real murderer has confessed, and that his name can be divulged for a fee. Of course, the newspaper correspondents here were not anxious to guarantee such a story as that. Those to whom application was made for confirmation simply discredited the probability of the story.

Later in the night orders came from the large papers in all the nearby cities, under which said Wilcox had been pardoned and that the real murderer was building his own scaffold. The excitement of the story-writers was intense for a few minutes. But one of the cooler members of the flock suggested that the story be rather too good to have been finished in one afternoon, and before the Governor of the State could know anything about it. Then it developed that some unknown man had been sending queries to newspapers throughout the country to induce them to order and pay for a story that was too startling to obtain the slightest credit.

**MOVE TO WEST POINT**  
Chesapeake Package Company Will Increase Its Plant.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
WEST POINT, VA., January 29.—The Chesapeake Package Company, will, it is said, move all of their plants from Baltimore to West Point, which will give employment to a number of hands. They have heretofore been shipping veneer to Baltimore, and there having it worked up into packages. All the work will in future be done here. The already large plant here will be added to and new and improved machinery put in. The plant is being at the present time under construction and is running night and day to fill orders.

The Donaldson-Shultz Pickling Company is offering better prices for pickles than last year, and are preparing to enlarge their business very much during the coming season.

Rev. H. A. Willis has gone to Orange county to visit his mother, who is quite sick.

Mrs. Thomas Scott Bagby, of Norfolk, spent the past week in West Point. Mrs. Benjamin Mosby, from Richmond, is visiting her son, Captain J. W. Mosby.

**FIRE IN COLUMBIA**  
Was Fortunately Discovered in Good Time.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
COLUMBIA, VA., January 29.—The new residence being built for Mr. Arthur Walton came near being destroyed accidentally by fire last night. The house is nearly completed, and fires had been built in all the fireplaces to dry the inside walls, and it is thought a piece of burning wood or coals must have rolled on the floor, setting it alight. Fortunately Mr. Walton discovered the fire in time to extinguish it. The floor was burned through to the ceiling below.

Dr. J. E. Tilman and family have located here permanently, and Dr. Tilman will continue the practice of his profession.

Mrs. Mallory and Miss Mallory, of

## ATHLETIC CLUB HOUSE

Plans for New Building on the University Athletic Field.

### DESIGNS BY PAUL J. PELZ

It Will Contain a Trophy Room, an Editorial Room, a Dining Room, a Banquet Hall, Twenty-three Sleeping Apartments, Etc.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, VA., January 30.—Paul J. Pelz, of Washington, D. C., the architect who furnished the plans for the Randall building and Hospital, and other buildings at the University, has provided the plans for the proposed athletic club house, to be erected on Rugby Avenue, close by the entrance to the splendid athletic field.

These plans do not, as yet, include the elevations, but drawings for these are now in progress. The building complete will be 135 feet long and 125 feet wide, two stories and basement and attic. It will contain a trophy room, editorial room, dining room, banquet hall, twenty-three sleeping apartments and bath facilities for fifty men.

The entrance to the building is through a reception hall 32x40 feet, and this opens into the de Saules room, 42 feet square, named after Mr. John L. de Saules, who coached the "Varsity" foot-ball eleven last fall and was won a place in the hearts of the entire student body by his fine personal character.

The rear elevation of the club house faces the athletic field, and will be furnished with quite as much regard to architectural details as the other entrance, the effect being aided by a semi-circular balcony.

The attic will contain two large dormitory rooms, 25x40 and 22x32, and a special sitting room, immediately above the de Saules room.

The estimated cost of the club house is between forty and fifty thousand dollars.

**VETERANS' BANQUET**  
Clinton Hatcher Camp Holds Enthusiastic Meeting at Leesburg.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
LEESBURG, VA., January 30.—An enthusiastic Confederate banquet was given by the Clinton Hatcher Camp, Confederate Veterans, in the Town Hall on Wednesday. About 150 old veterans were present. Among the speakers were Colonel E. V. White, commander of the camp, and Colonel John H. Alexander and Rev. Byrd Ferguson, of Mosby's Rangers; Judge Tabb, of this place; Mr. M. M. Rodefer, of Louisville.

On the same day the Loudoun Camp, S. C. V., held a meeting and re-elected the following officers: E. E. Garrett, commander; Harry Leslie, first lieutenant; C. Galleher, second lieutenant, and Paul Garrett, treasurer.

It is reported that a large knitting plant will be established in Leesburg by Northern capitalists within a few months. It will employ about thirty hands.

**BOSS SUSPENDED**  
Was in Charge of Chain Gang and Beat a Prisoner.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
ROANOKE, VA., Jan. 30.—C. Deboro boss of the chain gang, had a hearing to-day before the Mayor on the charge of beating G. Graham, one of the prisoners, and was suspended fifteen days. The City Council to-night adopted the report of the committee recommending a paid fire department with several amendments. The report, at no limit on the time of firemen remaining in service, and it is amended to five years. A pension was created by the councilmen proposing that any fireman who had any part in breaking up the volunteer department. The motion was defeated.

**From Cumberland.**  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
CUMBERLAND, C. H., January 30.—County Court convened here the 28th, but very little court business was transacted. But few people were in attendance. The roads are simply impassable, owing to the incessant rains.

The tobacco strike at the Cumberland Warehouse continues quite active. Many thousands of pounds of the weed have exchanged hands in the past few days. Mr. Andrew J. Gray, who has been quite sick at his home "Northfield," is improving. Mr. Gray, while walking across his lawn on Wednesday afternoon, fell in an unconscious condition. He was lying on the grass for some time, and was soon carried to the house, and regained consciousness in a few minutes.

**From Barrow's Store.**  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
BARROW'S STORE, VA., Jan. 30.—The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Hawthorne, who has been ill with the whooping cough, died on Wednesday and was buried yesterday at 11 o'clock in the old family burying-ground at the residence of Mr. Harry Jones.

Dr. J. H. Jones, who has been quite ill with pneumonia, is now convalescent. Labor is very scarce in this community, and farmers are back with their farming operation.

**Was a Lynchburg Boy.**  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
LYNCHBURG, VA., Jan. 30.—Lieutenant Merrill Lewis Walker, who has just been promoted to the rank of captain in the corps of engineers of the United States Army, was born and reared in this city.

He is a son of the late Dr. Thomas L. Walker and received the appointment to West Point while a resident of Lynchburg.

**Crizer—Venable.**  
(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)  
WALKER SPRING, VA., January 30.—On last Wednesday, at Nimrod Hall, Mr. Jasper Granville Crizer, of Clifton Forge, and Miss Gertrude May Venable were married by the Rev. J. J. McGowan. The wedding was a very quiet affair and a reception was tendered them after the ceremony. The bride was dressed in white muslin, trimmed in white silk ribbon and carried white carnations. She was attended by Miss Mary L. Rowe as maid of honor. The groom was attended by his brother, Mr. Hampton Crizer, of Clifton Forge, as best man. The presents were numerous and handsomely attended by the daughter of Mr. Charles H. Venable.

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